

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. By this amendment, claims 1-16 are amended, and claim 17 is added. Claims 10-16 are allowed. Claims 2-16 are amended to replace "characterized in that" with "wherein" for better form. These amendments to claims 2-16 are not done to further distinguish over the prior art.

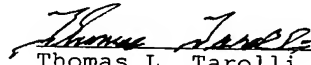
Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 2, 3, 5, and 9 if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 2, 3, 5, and 9 are amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Therefore, claims 2, 3, 5, and 9 are allowable.

Claim 1 is amended to recite that the second element is secured to the gas bag module (10). Claim 1 patentably defines over Dosai et al. Dosai et al. does not disclose or suggest a second element that is secured to the gas bag module. Claim 1 is also amended to recite that the contact elements (26, 28) are in electrical contact with each other and said switch (30) being closed to provide the monitoring warning signal only when said first and second detent elements (14, 16) are incorrectly locked. Dosai et al. does not disclose or suggest contact elements that are in electrical contact with each other, with a switch being closed to provide a warning signal only when first and second detent elements are incorrectly locked so that the gas bag module can be

correctly locked in position. In fact, Dosai et al. does not disclose a monitoring signal. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable. Claims 4, 6-8, and 17, which depend from claim 1, are allowable as depending from an allowable claim and also for the specific limitations recited therein.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the amendment be entered and the application allowed. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,


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